

STATE OF THE FORCE



MAY 2026 / ISSUE 03

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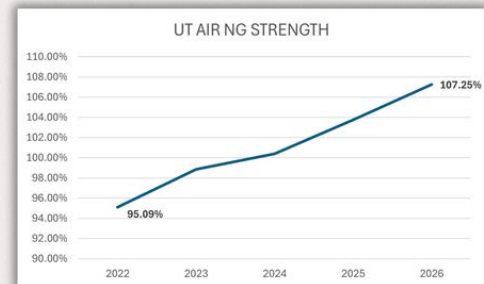
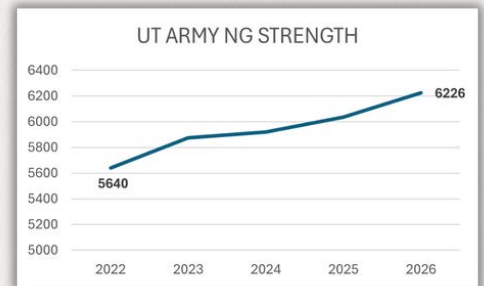
GUARD.UTAH.GOV



UTAH NATIONAL GUARD



ONE TEAM. ONE FIGHT



JOINT EXERCISE WOLVERINE

Exercise Wolverine, held 27-30 April 2026 integrated military, civilian, academic, and industry partners to simulate complex national security scenarios that challenge the joint force across multiple domains.

Maj. Gen. Boyack

As we move through 2026, our momentum continues to build. We are seeing victories worth celebrating across both our Army and Air components, and your performance continues to set the standard for the total Joint Force....

- Maj. Gen. Boyack

Command Sgt. Maj. Nielsen

As I look across the formations of the Utah National Guard, our operational tempo remains high, and the demands placed upon our force are significant. Yet, every time we are called upon, you rise to the occasion.

-CSM Nielsen



UTNG Continues Dominance at BWC

Spc. Caden Leonard, Utah Army National Guard (65TH FAB, 214TH FSC), was named Region VII Soldier of the Year after excelling in a multi-day Best Warrior Competition in Santa Fe, New Mexico. He now advances to the national competition



A Cry in the Desert: Decades of Partnership

The long-standing partnership with the Kingdom of Morocco and Utah National Guard saw many firsts including a powerful story of partnership and service through the humanitarian civic assistance mission during African Lion 2026.

READINESS

PROMOTION READINESS

Control the controllable and learn through this new video series on the Enlisted Promotion System how you can take ownership of your own promotion.



1-204th Infantry Activation

Utah welcomed the first light infantry unit in over a century. The activation represents a deliberate transformation of Utah's force structure and the culmination of years of planning to restore an infantry capability to the state's National Guard.

STORIES FROM AROUND THE FORCE



[Training for Every Theatre: Linguists Gather in Competition](#)



[Utah National Guard Best Warrior Competition Showcases Strength of the Warrior Core](#)



[From Translation to Strategic Insight: National Intelligence Leaders Convene at Utah's 8th Annual Language Conference](#)



[Utah Air National Guardsmen Innovate Meals for Training](#)



[The Weight We Carry: Survivor Strive Challenges Guard Members at Camp Williams](#)



[From travel to individual & family protection, check out the new resource library for readiness posters and tools](#)

UTNG PODCAST



The Utah National Guard Podcast offers an inside look at the people, missions, and priorities shaping the organization today.

- [Ep. 1: Mission Ready: Preparing Our Families for Anything](#)
- [Ep. 2: Mission Ready: Stay Connected, Stay Safe](#)
- [Ep. 3: Mission Ready, Know your Risks, Make a Plan](#)



INNOVATION AND LETHALITY

EXERCISE WOLVERINE



Video | EX Wolverine Video

The Utah National Guard continues to set the standard for readiness, innovation, and mission-focused culture—adapting to evolving challenges while staying grounded in its commitment to both state and nation. Through every mission, it remains focused on being prepared, capable, and Always Ready, Always There.

WOLVERINE: PROTECT THE HOMELAND

Click above for the DVIDS feature page and all EX Wolverine stories & content

EXERCISE WOLVERINE VALIDATED CRITICAL CAPABILITIES, STRENGTHENED ESSENTIAL PARTNERHSIPS AND EMPHASIZED PREPAREDNESS FOR THE NEXT REAL-WORLD CRISIS



UTNG Conducts Medical Operations in a Contested Homeland During Exercise Wolverine



UTNG Integrates Air and Ground Capabilities in Exercise Wolverine Disaster Response Training



UTNG and Local Partners Respond to a Simulated Cyberattack during Exercise Wolverine



VIDEO | UTNG Exercise Wolverine 2026: Simulated Refinery Explosion & Rubble Extraction Operations



VIDEO | UTNG Exercise Wolverine 2026: Defending Critical Infrastructure from Cyber Threats



VIDEO | UTNG Exercise Wolverine 2026: Integrated Medical Training at the MSTC, Camp Williams



CULTURE



UTANG Airman Selected for Historic Return of Air Force Warrant Officer program



Sgt. Ben Loomis Makes History competing in his third Olympics at the 2026 Winter Olympics Nordic Combined Event



UTANG Honors The Airmen of the Year 2025



"Thunder 6" | Lt. Col. Jeremy Williams Assumes Command of 65th Field Artillery Brigade



UTNG Hosts Spouse Night, Strengthens Connections & Increases Family Readiness



UTARNG Helps Communities through Transporting Food Donations to Local Food Pantries during Scouting for Food

UPCOMING EVENTS

- * **State of Utah Service Members Of the Year**
 MAY 19, 2026
 11:00 a.m.
 Utah State Capitol Rotunda
- * **204TH MEB Change of Command**
 MAY 30, 2026
 10:00 a.m.
 Tarbet Field, Camp Williams
- * **Nephi Readiness Center Grand Opening**
 JUNE 2, 2026
 2:00 p.m.
 2378 W. Airport Lane Nephi, UT
- * **AAG - Army Change of Command**
 JUNE 6, 2026
 9:00 a.m.
 Tarbet Field, Camp Williams
- * **Bronze Minuteman Awards Dinner**
 JUNE 4, 2026
 6:30 p.m.
 Little America Hotel
- * **300TH MI Change of Command**
 JUNE 6, 2026
 10:30 a.m.
 Lundell Readiness Ctr, Camp Williams, Auditorium



"America's Thunder" Wins Alexander Hamilton Award for 2025



UTARNG Col. Marcus Wisner awarded Legion of Merit



A MESSAGE FROM THE EDITORIAL DESK

The Utah National Guard Joint Public Affairs Office thanks you for your continued commitment and service across the state and around the world. Our vision is to work as "One Team, One Voice" as we communicate command information, key messages, feature stories, and highlights of our amazing Utah National Guard team to our members and communities.

